Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

SCIENCE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Advancement of Science, publishing the official notices and proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, edited by J. McKeen Cattell and published every Friday by

THE SCIENCE PRESS

11 Liberty St., Utica, N. Y. Garrison, N. Y.
New York City: Grand Central Terminal

Annual Subscription, $6.00 Single Copies, 15 Cts.

Entered as second-class matter January 21, 1922, at the Post Office at Utica, N. Y., Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. LVI NOVEMBER 3, 1922 No. 1453

CONTENTS

The Abstracting and Indexing of Biological Literaure: DR. J. R. SCHRAMM 495

Does Nitrification occur in Sea Water: PROFESSOR CHAS. B. LIPMAN 501

A Recent Scientific Expedition to the Islands off the West Coast of Lower California: DR. G. DALLAS HANNA 503

Aid to Russian Scientists: DR. VERNON KELLOGG 504

Scientific Events:
The Recovery of Helium; The Use of Oxygen in Metallurgical Operations; Acoustical Research; The American Society of Zoologists 505

Scientific Notes and News 507

University and Educational Notes 511

Discussion and Correspondence:
The Dissociation of Carbon in the Intensive Arc: DR. LOUIS BELL and P. R. BASSETT. *The Determination of Fat in Cream:* PROFESSORS E. G. MAHIN and R. H. CARR. *Note on a Daylight Meteorite:* DR. NORMAN MACL. HARRIS. *Howard on Chemical Spelling:* DR. H. W. WILEY 512

Quotations:
Bayer 205 514

Scientific Books:
Parker on Smell, Taste and Allied Senses in the Vertebrates: PROFESSOR C. JUDSON HERRICK 515

Special Articles:
Perigenesis: HAROLD C. SANDS 517

The American Chemical Society: DR. CHARLES L. PARSONS 518

THE ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING OF BIOLOGICAL LITERATURE[1]

WHEN DR. Lillie asked me to discuss some phase of the general abstracts-indexes-bibliographies problem in one of these evenings I hesitated considerably before accepting because it appeared to me such a discussion would be rather foreign to the general character of these evenings, occupied, as they are, primarily with the results of biological or related research. However, it was rather because of this difference that I ventured to accept. I found a certain justification on the ground that if in the main these evenings are given over to the reporting of advances in knowledge, one evening might conceivably be profitably devoted to a consideration of whether we are preserving these advances in such a way that the greatest use may be made of them with a minimum expenditure of time, energy, and funds. We expend considerable funds and enormous amounts of energy and time in ascertaining new facts and publishing them *in extenso*. I believe it is pertinent to inquire whether we have established adequate means for so recording these facts that the greatest and most economical use is made of them and progress made as largely cumulative as possible.

No doubt some of you are wondering what special license I have to discuss this problem. I can answer only that I have none. My contact with the subject has been a brief one. I happen to be one of a number who for the past four years have been carrying some of the responsibility in connection with *Botanical Abstracts,* and as such have been impressed with the magnitude of the problem of properly recording our information and have become convinced that in a large measure we have not in

[1] An invitation paper given at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, August 4, 1922.